



## **SUMMARY OF REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETINGS**

### **WSDOT LATS Study**

**Tuesday, June 20, 2006 2:00PM-4:00PM - Seattle**

**Wednesday, June 21, 2006, 2:00PM-4:00PM – Chehalis**

**Monday, June 26, 2006, 2:00PM-4:00PM – Spokane**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2006, 2:00PM-4:00PM**

### **Participating LATS Study Team Staff:**

John Sibold, WSDOT  
John Shambaugh, WSDOT  
Kerri Woehler, WSDOT  
Nisha Hanchinamani, WSDOT  
Sonjia Murray, SH&E  
Deborah Meehan, SH&E  
Zoë Murray, SH&E  
David Williams WHP  
John Yarnish URS  
Theresa Gonzalez, PRR

### **Outline of Presentation**

John Sibold, Director of Aviation, introduced the Long-Term Air Transportation Study (LATS) initiative, which is a three phase project. Mr. Sibold discussed the project goals and the purpose of the statewide airport project as detailed in the state legislation ESSB 5121. He outlined the state legislation efforts to develop and initiate the bill that created LATS. Mr. Sibold indicated the FAA was an important partner in the LATS project and will contribute a large portion of the study funding. He also provided a brief history of the airport study efforts to date. One of the critical issues facing aviation in Washington is the considerable growth activity. In the last 25 years the state's population has doubled and is expected to grow by another 50% by 2030. WSDOT understands the population growth will directly impact aviation demand and put



## **Washington State Department of Transportation**

pressure on capacity. He emphasized that the State needs to address and plan for its future airport development issues now. Mr. Sibold also discussed different growth challenges facing the four key States regions including Puget Sound, Spokane, Vancouver and Tri Cities. Mr. Sibold introduced Nisha Hanchinamani, the Public Information Officer, a key contact in the Aviation Division for all news and information related to LATS.

Nisha Hanchinamani, outlined the public outreach efforts that the LATS project team has undertaken and still has planned. She also discussed the importance of the outreach efforts and stated that it would be critical to communicate results and encourage involvement from the different audiences - airport managers, the general public, state legislature and other aviation interests across the state. She stressed how important it is that all audiences stay involved in the study by keeping up on information about the project findings and results. She also described the different ways WSDOT is making information available to all – placing particular emphasis on the website. Ms. Hanchinamani introduced Sonja Murray, the project manager for the SH&E consultant study team.

Ms. Murray provided an overview of the Phase I activities in LATS. She discussed the compressed timeframe under which Phase I, the airport inventory survey and capacity analysis, is being implemented. The deadline for the first report is set for September 30<sup>th</sup>. She also outlined the efforts of Phase II, which are currently underway, including collection of current airport master plans in preparation for activity forecasting and a commercial airport market analysis. Ms. Murray provided an overview of the project team and the roles and responsibilities of each firm. She briefly discussed the schedule for the project and informed the audience that Phases I and II, which include extensive data collection, analysis and fact finding, will be completed by June 30, 2007. She then introduced John Yarnish, Senior Manager with URS, one of the engineering firms leading the airport inventory survey and capacity analysis efforts.

Mr. Yarnish provided an overview of the online, web-based, airport, inventory, survey detailing the information being collected, stressing airports complete the survey by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline and why each element of the survey was important for getting the best results for the overall project efforts. He discussed the purpose for the data results, and that the importance of the information being collected was to understand the overall current capacity of the Washington airport system. Mr. Yarnish answered technical questions about the airport inventory survey and provided an overview of the online features. Finally, John Sibold and a member of the Washington DOT gave a briefing on how LATS would be incorporated into the Washington Transportation Plan as well as provided an overview of other WSDOT activities.

Most of the questions at the regional meetings focused on the airport inventory survey. Many people had questions about the survey's format and questions. A majority of the meeting participants had either started or completed the inventory survey.

## **LATS Regional Technical Meeting Agenda**

Intro to WSDOT – John Sibold, Director of Aviation, WSDOT

- Meeting Objectives
- Kick off Phase I of LATS
- Washington Airport Trends
- Past Statewide/Regional Airport projects
- LATS project came out of previous initiatives

Intro to Outreach/Communication Efforts – Nisha Hanchinamani, PIO

- Introduced her role – point of contact at WSDOT for questions/comments/feedback
- Discussed the high importance communication and outreach will have throughout LATS – top priority for WSDOT
- Provided an overview of LATS website – key communication tool
- Discussed other communication efforts – Quarterly newsletter, list serve email service, participation by WSDOT at other aviation related events to provide LATS progress reports, partnering with Washington aviation interest including WAMA and PSRC to help promote LATS

Intro to LATS – Sonjia, Project Manager, SH&E Study Team

- Overview of three LATS schedule
- Airport System Plan Objectives, purpose
- Reiterated importance of keeping communication transparent and active throughout LATS
- Consultant Study Team – identify firms, roles and responsibilities
- Timeline (Next Steps) – September 30<sup>th</sup> Phase I deadline

Review Airport Inventory Survey – John Yarnish, URS or Dave Williams, WH Pacific

- Purpose of effort
- Distribution of survey – online, web-based
- Airport survey communication efforts and strategies
- Discuss survey data – what will be measured and analyzed
- Gather feedback from airport manager audience

Other WSDOT programs – John Sibold

- LATS and WTP integration
- What are our Programs?
- What are We Doing at Your Airport?
- 5010 airport inspections

*Open up meeting to Q&A and technical discussion*